Amateur Computer Scroup of New Jersey NEWS

Volume 38, Number 08 August 2013

ACGNJ Has August Activities!

As you can see in the schedule on the right, some of our Special Interest Groups hold meetings in August. Have you been curious about one or more of those groups, but just haven't found the time to "drop in"? When you're not "riding the wild surf" or "catching some rays", maybe you might consider attending a few. Then, there's our annual Planning Meeting on August 23rd. In many ways, this can be considered our most important public meeting of the year. You want to affect the direction the club is taking? That's where it happens. Have a great summer, full of fun, adventure and relaxation; and computer stuff *too*!

REMEMBER THESE DATES:

July 16, 2013 was the *twentieth* anniversary of Slackware Linux, first released in 1993 by Patrick Volkerding. Slackware is the *oldest* surviving Linux distribution. (There are many Linux variants derived from Slackware).

August 16, 2013 is the *twentieth* anniversary of Debian GNU/Linux, first released in 1993 by Ian Murdock. Debian is the *second* oldest surviving Linux distribution. (Ubuntu is based on Debian, as are many other "flavors" of Linux).

September 27, 2013 will be the *THIRTIETH* anniversary of GNU (GNU's Not Unix), first announced in 1983 by Richard Stallman. This is the *true* date of origin for the operating system that we now call Linux. (In its name, Debian GNU/Linux acknowledges its GNU "roots". Slackware Linux, like most others, does *not*).

ACGNJ Meetings

For the very latest news on ACGNJ meetings, please visit the ACGNJ Website (www.acgnj.org).

Lunics (**Linux/UNIX**): Monday, August 5, 8:00 PM Andreas Meyer (lunics (at) acgnj.org)

Java: (No meeting in August)

Mike Redlich (mike (at) redlich.net)

Investing: Thursday, August 8, 8:00 PM Jim Cooper (jim (at) thecoopers.org).

NJ Gamers: Friday, August 9, 6:00 PM

Gregg McCarthy (greggmajestic (at) gmail.com)

Mobile Devices: Wednesday, August 14, 7:30 PM

Brenda Bell (mobdevsig (at) acgnj.org)

Web Browser: Monday, August 19, 7:30 PM David McRitchie (firefox (at) acgnj.org)

Planning Meeting: Friday, *August 23*, 7:00 PM (Please see page 3 for further details). Mike Redlich (mike (at) redlich.net)

The following <u>do not</u> hold meetings in the summer: C/C++, Hardware, Layman's Forum, Main Meeting, WebDev, Window Pains.

All meetings, unless otherwise noted, are at the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad, 1916 Bartle Ave, Scotch Plains, New Jersey. Directions and map on back page.



http://www.acgnj.org

Founded 1975

In This Issue

2013 ACGNJ Planning Meeting, Michael P. Redlich 3	investment SIG Meeting Summary (July 11, 2013), Philip Lees $\boldsymbol{3}$
Uncle of "Why So Big?" Bob Hawes4	Microsoft Windows Telephone Scam – BEWARE!! apcug 7
Save Money on Telephone Calls, Sandy Berger 8	What You Can Do If Your Mobile Phone Gets Wet, $\textit{Tom Allen}$. 9
Why Do I Care? Wil Wakely	Inserting International Letters into Word Documents, Nancy DeMarte .11
SIG News	Guru Corner
Letter To The Editor, Dr. Ste	ve Palaszewski

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Submissions: Articles, reviews, cartoons, illustrations. Most common formats are acceptable. Graphics embedded in the document must also be sent as separate files. E-mail submissions to newsletter@acgnj.org preferred. **Always confirm**. Date review and include name of word processor used, your name, address and phone and name, address and phone of manufacturer, if available.

Tips for reviewers: Why does anyone need it? Why did you like it or hate it? Ease (or difficulty) of installation, learning and use. Would you pay for it?

Advertising: Non-commercial announcements from members are free. Commercial ads 15 cents per word, \$5 minimum. Camera ready display ads: Full page (7 x 10 inches) \$150, two-thirds page (4.5 x 10) \$115, halfpage \$85, one-third \$57, quarter \$50, eighth \$30. Discount 10% on 3 or more consecutive insertions. Enclose payment.

Publication Exchange: Other computer user groups are invited to send a subscription to ACGNJ at the address below. We will respond in kind.

Address Changes should be e-mailed to *membership@acgnj.org* or sent to ACGNJ at the address below.

Membership: Regular (now includes *all* family members who reside at the same address): 1 year \$25, 2 years \$40, 3 years \$55. Student: 1 year \$20. Senior Citizen (over 65): 1 year \$20, 3 years \$45. Send name, address and payment to ACGNJ, PO Box 135, Scotch Plains NJ 07076.

Typographic Note: This ACGNJ News was produced using Scribus 1.3.3.13. Font families used are Times New Roman (TT) for body text, Arial (TT) for headlines.

E-Mail Addresses

Here are the e-mail addresses of ACGNJ Officers, Directors and SIG Leaders (and the Newsletter Editor). This list is also at (http://www.acgnj.org/officers.html).

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2013 ACGNJ Planning Meeting

President's Note, August 2013 Michael P. Redlich, ACGNJ

I hope all of you are enjoying a happy and safe Summer 2013. While most of our special interest groups take a summer hiatus during the months of July and August, some are still having meetings. Please check the web site, http://www.acgnj.org/, for the latest information.

I wanted to take this opportunity to let you know about this year's ACGNJ Planning Meeting scheduled for August 23, 2013. It will be held at the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad starting at 7:00pm. As most of you are already aware, the intent of this meeting is to brainstorm topics for the Main and Window Pains meetings.

We rely on you, our valued members, to select the best possible presentations for these meetings. Remember, ACGNJ is your computer club. It is important that we all work together to make this a computer club that will attract and retain new members. We need to show prospective members that the personal touch we offer in all of our special interest groups makes a difference for things such as solving hardware and/or operating system problems, learning more about a programming language, or

learning how to invest via the Internet.

As a way of saying "thank you," we will provide dinner. All we ask in return is to suggest two topics for consideration. Should any of your topics be selected and scheduled for a Main or Window Pains meeting, we ask further for you to present the topic yourself or provide a speaker.

This is a model we have used in the past. While scheduling the topics is trivial, it's being ready for your particular presentation that can be challenging. I realize that we are all very busy caring for our families, working 40+ hours a week, and dealing with day-to-day activities. It's easy to forget about being ready for your presentation. It is incumbent upon all of us, that is, the ACGNJ Board of Directors and you to ensure every presentation will be ready to go as it's scheduled date draws near.

So please mark your calendars for August 23, 2013. If you can attend, please come out to support your club. (For further information and an RSVP form, please go to: http://www.acgnj.org/pm/pma.html). We appreciate all you do for ACGNJ throughout the year! \square

Investment SIG Meeting Summary (July 11, 2013)

Philip Lees, ACGNJ

We had a nice meeting, with a very good attendance (16 people) and very nice participation. •

Jim had started the meeting talking about trading ETFs. Triggered by a very specific question, asking about "ROBOTIC" stocks, we quickly identified, examined and discussed ROBOTICS-related stocks.

Next, we moved on to the metals, more specifically GOLD, in which case we examined and discussed the chart of GLD. Additionally, we discussed various semiconductor ETFs, some of which were very leveraged and not very liquid. The lack of liquidity (low volume and/or low options volume) should steer you away from these instruments!

Then, Jim opened up a question about option spreads, of which we discussed the advantages and disadvantages of trading them, why to trade them and a little on how to trade them to put the probabilities in *your* favor. YAY!

Finally, Jim did a brief presentation on Fibonacci levels with retracements and extensions being discussed.

To wrap up the meeting in our "social" chat, we had chocolate-chip cookies provided by Brenda, Entenmann's selections provided by Chandru and sodas provided by John (V).

Thank you to Jim and to everyone who attended and participated and a special thank you to Brenda, Chandru and John for generously providing the refreshments.

We hope to see everyone at the next meeting on August 8th (2nd Thursday in August). Thanks again. Philip \square

Uncle of "Why So Big?"

Bob Hawes, ACGNJ

As I write his, it's not quite the middle of June. So, even though I intend for this article to be published in our August 2013 issue, I'm just starting to lay out our July newsletter right now; and, not so coincidentally, that's just what this article is about: my preparations for our July 2013 issue. Look at me, everybody! I'm self-documenting again. That is, I'm taking notes that I'll need for my own future guidance, but I'm doing it in such a way that I'll get a publishable article out of it as well. Truly a win-win situation; but first, I'm going to repeat three "recap" paragraphs that I've used before.

Scribus is my fun, fabulous, and *free* desktop publisher. Its newer 1.4.x releases are !!!NOT!!! backwards compatible with its earlier 1.3.x releases. GIF (Graphics Interchange Format) files were introduced by CompuServe in the mid eighties. They're *compact*, and they use lossless data compression; but they support only 256 colors. Unfortunately, some transcendent genius at Scribus

has decreed that you'll get useless, intrusive and distracting "Image is GIF" error messages any time that you use them. **JPG** (or JPEG, for **J**oint **P**hotographic **E**xperts **G**roup) files were introduced by the ISO (International **S**tandards **O**rganization), also in the mid eighties. They're *very* popular for digital photography, even though (or maybe *because*) they use lossy compression.

TIF (or TIFF, for Tagged Image File Format) files were introduced in the mid eighties as well, by the Aldus Corporation. Originally created for desktop scanners, they were quickly adopted by the publishing industry in general. They support lossless *or* lossy compression, as desired. PNG (Portable Network Graphics) files employ lossless data compression. Their specification was originally authored via e-mail in the mid *nineties*, by a group of computer graphics users who were dissatisfied with GIF files for various reasons.

Still recapping: This is the seventh installment in my

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ongoing "bigness" saga. The first six were Why So Big? (December 2012), Son of "Why So Big?" (January 2013), Daughter of "Why So Big?" (February 2013), Niece of "Why So Big?" (May 2013), Nephew of "Why So Big?" (June 2013), and Aunt of "Why So Big?" (July 2013). The initial impetus for this whole series came from the undeniable fact that three newsletters I made while I was in the hospital (using a borrowed Vista laptop, yet. Horrors!) came out SO much bigger than anything I'd made under Linux. Those newsletters were our original October, November and December 2012 issues (Measuring 6.3 MB, 5.9 MB and 4.8 MB, respectively). Also, please don't forget that all three of those newsletters contained serious technical flaws. (For further details about those flaws, see Purloined Letters in our March 2013 issue).

OK. On to new stuff: Every three months, I create another "working directory" for our newsletter, into which I'll copy *only* the files I need for the future. (I've found that if I *don't* do this, things get much too

cluttered and confusing). So now, I've created a new JULSEP13 directory, and I'm about to start moving things into it. Even more important, though, I have to decide which stuff I *don't* need to carry forward; and, due to circumstances *totally* under my control, I'll be abandoning a *lot* of files this time.

Right now, I *don't* know for sure which version of Scribus I'll be using most often from now on (1.3.3.13, 1.4.0, or something entirely different); but I have to prepare for the future as best I can. At this moment, as far as image files go, it seems that the JPG format is the *only* available option. (See last month's conclusion in *Aunt of "Why So Big?"* for further details). For one thing, this means that I'll have to change *all* of the images in my "skeleton" work file before I can continue. Hah! And you thought that somehow this article would be different from my six previous "bigness" installments.

At this point in time, there are only five files in my new JULSEP13 directory. Four of them are separately saved sequential versions of my article for our July issue, and the fifth file is this one that I'm

Uncle of "Why So Big?" continued

writing right this minute for our August issue. (Soon enough, there'll be separately saved sequential versions of *this* article, too. That's just part of the way I write newsletter articles). In fact, I've decided to add another directory and a few more files right now. So I've just created a new subdirectory of JULSEP13 named Starters, and I've copied Measure1.sla (my special size-measuring Scribus work file) into it.

Once in Starters, I renamed that file Measure3.sla, and I edited its "Master Page". In addition to its existing footer, I added a header and a center bar, also displaying page numbers. (This will make it easier to use in the future). Then I made a second copy of it, and renamed it Measure4.sla, After that, I made Measure3.sla read-only. (From now on, it will just be used for Scribus 1.3.3.13 articles, and I don't want to accidentally save it under 1.4.0 and thus ruin it). Later, I *do* intend to save Measure4.sla, so it can *only* be used by Scribus 1.4.0 and its successors. (Unfortunately, details about how I actually use these files are beyond the scope of this particular article).

However, I've got some work to do before I can similarly transfer my "skeleton" work file into this new subdirectory. So I went to a previous Starters subdirectory, to find a copy of my old "skeleton" work file. From its name, you can tell that Skel1304.sla was last updated in April of 2013. Now, I'll be updating it again. This way, the extensive changes that I'll be making to my new "Skeleton" file will automatically be passed on down to *all* of our future newsletters.

Skel1304.sla had a partly filled-in front page, five "boilerplate" pages (containing text and/or images that hardly ever change), and ten "empty" pages. (Those pages each contained headers, footers, center separators, and four quarter page text frames; but those text frames <u>didn't</u> contain any text). In total, the file contained 17 images (14 GIF and 3 PNG). I intended to change *all* of them; but first, leaving the original Skel1304.sla *untouched*, I made a copy of it, and renamed it 1306SKL3.sla. (The 1306 is for June of 2013, and the additional 3 at the end is for Scribus 1.3.3.13). As my regular readers must have

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realized by now, I prefer to keep my file names in the ISO9660 (8.3 character) format whenever I can. In this case, changing the order of the characters in my file name was necessary to do so, but I considered it worthwhile.

Opening 1306SKL3.sla under Scribus 1.3.3.13, I immediately made a PDF file, just as it was. It measured 1.9 MB. Switching to my Ubuntu 12.04 hard disk, I opened that *still* untouched file under Scribus 1.4.0, and I immediately made another PDF, also just as it was. It measured 2.6 MB, for a difference, in this case, of 0.7 MB (actually 677 KB). From now on, I'm going to call this difference (whatever it may be for any particular case) the "Upgrade 4 Penalty".

Switching my hard disk back to Ubuntu 11.04, and opening 1306SKL3.sla again under Scribus 1.3.3.13, I proceeded to *de*-construct that file by deleting *all* of its images. Then, I *re*-constructed it again, adding *only* JPG versions of those image files. However, for a better comparison, I've reported those two procedures below as if they had both been done

simultaneously. (Note: By re-arranging my results in this way, I'm aware that I created a logical inconsistency. If you notice it, please ignore it. I'll explain everything further below).

Starting at the end: On page 16, when I deleted the 414 KB image named 1108page16-150.png, I got a 707.2 KB decrease in output PDF file size; and when I added the newly converted 461 KB image named 1108page16-150.jpg, I got a 452 KB increase in PDF size. On page 15, when I deleted the 308 KB image named 1108page15-150.png. I got a 480.7 KB decrease in PDF size; and when I added the newly converted 310 KB image named 1108page15-150.jpg, I got a 303 KB increase. So far, so good. (Are you feeling Deja Vu? If so, it's because these deconstruction and re-construction processes are pretty much paralleling my experiences as described in previous months. Sorry about that).

On page 14, the image deleted from the bottom right hand corner was a copy of the 7.5 KB file TINY_PC2.gif. (That's the teeny tiny computer picture that we use to mark the ends of various

Uncle of "Why So Big?" continued

closing paragraphs). Deleting it got me a 27.4 KB decrease in PDF size; and when I added newly converted 15.1 KB file TINY_PC2.*jpg*, I got a 15.4 KB *in*crease. A couple of inches above that, when the 2.5 <u>MB</u> file NL_CD_12.png was deleted, I got a 512 <u>KB</u> decrease in PDF size; and when I added newly converted 260 <u>KB</u> file NL_CD_12.*jpg*, I got a 254 KB *in*crease. Still so far, still so good.

The remaining six images on page 14 were *also* copies of TINY_PC2.gif. Deleting them got me a mere *2 byte* decrease in PDF size, (I'll explain why in a minute). Adding six copies of TINY_PC2.*jpg* to their empty places only got me an increase of *7 bytes*. Those minuscule differences are because I *hadn't* actually deleted or added any images. Instead, I'd just changed six links to the first (and *only*) copy of whichever "TINY_PC2" file that Scribus had initially copied into each of my respective output PDFs.

Furthermore, *all six* of the images that had been deleted from page 13 were also copies of TINY PC2.gif. That got me a 32 byte decrease in

PDF size, Then, when I added six more copies of TINY_PC2.*jpg* in their places, I got a PDF increase of only *36* bytes. (Again, *no* files copied, just six more links modified). I *can't* explain the relatively huge differences between those two sets of figures (2 and 7 bytes for page 14 versus 32 and 36 bytes for page 13); but I really don't have to do that, because they parallel each other. Therefore, I can accept them without necessarily understanding them.

There were no images on pages 12 through 2, so that brings us to page 1. It only contained one image, another copy of the 7.5 KB file TINY_PC2.gif. Deleting it yielded only a 26 byte decrease in PDF size. (Because. as explained above, I *hadn't* actually deleted an image, just a link). As expected, adding its recently converted replacement, the 15.1 KB file TINY_PC2.*jpg*, gave me a similarly minuscule increase of 27 bytes. (Because, of course, I'd only added a *different* link, not an image).

Now for that logical inconsistency: In reality, as I clearly stated five paragraphs above, I actually deleted all of the GIF and PNG images first. Then, I

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added all of the JPG images later. What I didn't say is that I started my deletions on page 1 and worked downwards, while I started my additions on page 16 worked upwards. Thus, the copy TINY PC2.gif in the bottom right hand corner of page 14 was actually the *last* of the fourteen copies of that image to be deleted. That's why it got me the 27.4 KB decrease in PDF size reported above. On the other hand, the copy of TINY PC2.jpg that replaced it was, indeed, the first copy of that file to be added. That's why it got me the 15.4 KB increase reported above. (See, Mr. Spock? There's really nothing illogical about it).

Plus, between those deletion and addition procedures, I did some other stuff, too. Still running Scribus 1.3.3.13, I exported a PDF of the then imageless version of my file, and it measured only 797.9 **K**B. After that, I temporarily switched to my Ubuntu 12.04 hard disk, and I also exported that same file under Scribus 1.4.0. It measured 799.5 KB, for an "Upgrade 4 Penalty" of only 1.6 KB (actually 1,625 *bytes*). So even discounting images, there's still a

small difference in the way Scribus 1.4.0 processes its work files. It's not much when compared to the $677 \ \underline{K}B$ Penalty for the "full" versions above, but it exists.

At last, after all that, I was *finally* able to transfer my new 1306SKL3.sla file to my new Starters subdirectory. (I also had to transfer copies of 1108page16-150.jpg, 1108page15-150.jpg, NL_CD_12.jpg, and TINY_PC2.jpg along with it. Otherwise, 1306SKL3.sla wouldn't have worked right). In fact, seven *more* files also had to be copied into Starters, to make sure that my "skeleton" could always be properly expanded into a general purpose work file: ACGNJ3RC.JPG, ACGNJ3WC.JPG, ACGNJ4BW.JPG, ACGNJ4R.JPG, PC-3line.jpg, PC-4line.jpg and PC-SeeYa.jpg.

Right now, our previous "working directory" (APRJUN13) contains 122 files measuring 144.5 MB, and its Starters subdirectory currently contains 48 files measuring 16.5 MB. Last year's JULSEP12 directory contains 96 files measuring 36.1 MB, the OCTDEC12 directory contains 225 files measuring

Uncle of "Why So Big?" continued

291,7 MB, and the JANMAR13 directory contains 222 files measuring 213.8 MB. On the other hand, our new JULSEP13 directory still contains only 5 files measuring 177.45 **K**B: and its new Starters subdirectory currently contains 14 files measuring 3.3 MB.

Actually, these 14 files **would** be enough to start a new newsletter; but we **don't** actually work with the files in the Starters subdirectory. First, we copy them to the current "working directory" (in this case, JULSEP13). So that's what I did. Now, the files stored in Starters will remain untouched, so they can be used to start more new newsletters in the future; and the **19** files now in JULSEP13 **are**, in fact, enough to start a new newsletter there. All I have to do is to rename the newly copied 1306SKL3.sla file to 2013Jul1.sla first.

Well, there *is* really one more thing that I have to do right now. All our previous "working directories"

also had a Sources subdirectory. This is where I keep all of my "foreign imports" (articles written by other people). Currently, it contains 24 files measuring 23 MB. Because I take files out of this subdirectory as I use them, Sources always contains only stuff that I haven't yet used. So each time I create a new "working directory", I just copy this complete subdirectory into it; and that's what I did now, too.

As time goes by, when required, I *will* be copying even more files into JULSEP13, and there *are* internal changes that I'll have to make to 2013Jul1.sla before I can successfully use it; but both of those subjects are beyond the scope of this article. In addition, Scribus 1.4.0 will have to be used on 1306SKL3.sla to create its "twin" companion, 1306SKL4.sla; but *that* process will have to wait until my next article. Because we're *well* past 2,000 words, so it's time to stop. Amazingly, though, we're still pretty far from finished. See you next month.

Microsoft Windows Telephone Scam – BEWARE!!

(From the Association of Personal Computer User Groups – www.apcug.net)

This really happened to a user group member in California.

One of our members (I'll save him embarrassment by calling him "Jim") has just been the victim of a phone scam involving Microsoft. Not the "real" Microsoft.

Fearing viruses on his computer, Jim allowed the "Microsoft tech support" man on the phone to enter his computer electronically to check. The caller "found" red flags next to items on the computer that indicated viruses and offered to fix the computer -- for a charge. Jim felt uncomfortable with this and said no. The "Microsoft" scammer said he would block the use of the computer if he was not paid. Jim hung up.

Unhappily, Jim discovered afterward that the scammer had indeed done something while connected to the computer so that Jim could not use it or the internet. Luckily, there was no financial or other sensitive information on the computer that could also have been taken by the scammer. If it had, that would have been another story. A very sad story.

However, not so luckily, Jim will not be able to use

his computer again for a couple of days until it has been reformatted and all the programs reinstalled.

So, fellow members, this is an updated warning. It CAN happen to you. Jim wants you to know about and to learn from his awful experience. Here is a link at Microsoft that describes various scams using its name: http://www.microsoft.com/security/online-privacy/msname.aspx

From the Windows Secrets newsletter

< http://windowssecrets.com/>:

"Everybody's Event Viewer has red and yellow flags. Check yours right now and you'll see them:

"Windows XP: Click Start, Control Panel, Performance and Maintenance, Administrative Tools; then double-click Computer Management.

"Vista: Do the same, except for the final step. Double-click Event Viewer instead.

"Win7: Click Start, type Event, click Event Viewer.

"On the left of the Event Viewer window, expand the Windows Logs/System branch. See the ocean of colored flags? They're mostly harmless, although they look alarming — which is why Windows makes it difficult to find them. It's good fodder for a

Microsoft Windows Telephone Scam - BEWARE!! continued

flimflam"

Links to Microsoft Telephone Scam articles and/or information:

Microsoft Security & Safety Center:

http://bit.ly/jxOzal

Microsoft Answers – Virus and Malware:

http://bit.ly/P4w9j2

InformationWeek Security: http://bit.ly/Rp7oAI

abc15.com: http://bit.ly/RbOedZ

Note from Judy: I've been on the phone with Jim Evans, APCUG Director, when he's been called by one of these scam people. He's using Skype with me

so I was able to hear what the person was saying on his regular phone plus Jim's responses. This has happened twice within the last six weeks or so. The last time, he was really leading the caller on but was having trouble understanding what he was saying. Conclusion, you'd think the scammers would have a better grasp of the English language before they call. The Microsoft telephone-based scams have been around since 2008

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Save Money on Telephone Calls

Sandy Berger, CompuKISS

(www.compukiss.com) sandy (at) compukiss.com

Many of us remember when we all paid a monthly fee to the telephone company for our landline and paid exorbitant rates for long distance service. If you had friends or relatives living far away, those monthly bills could really add up. You may even remember that when a call from afar would come in, the person who answered the phone would promptly announce that the call was "long distance" and the recipient of the call would rush over to the phone so the connection time would be kept as short as

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possible.

Thankfully, all of that is in the past. Technology has brought us many ways to keep in touch with friends, family, and business associates around the world quite inexpensively.

There are actually two different technologies that telephone-type have greatly impacted our communications. First is the emergence of cell phones. Today most of us are using cell phones for everyday communications. Since cell phones work on "minutes" rather than distance, you can basically call anywhere is the US more economically than you can with the old "long distance" service that the telephone companies provide. Each cell phone company offers somewhat unique features, but all are money-savers. For instance, some carriers allow you to call anyone else on that carrier at no charge. Some have special evening and weekend rates. Some allow you to list up to ten telephone numbers that you can call at any time with no charge.

Cell phone charges are generally much more expensive when you want to call overseas, but there

is a great technological solution for that too. It is the second technology that has greatly impacted telephone-type communications. It is called VoIP, which stands for Voice Over Internet Protocol. VoIP uses the Internet to make telephone calls. Most of the major telephone and cable companies now offer some sort of "Internet" calling packages. Other companies like Vonage and Net2Phone have made a splash in this industry.

VoIP allows you to use your broadband Internet connection to make phone calls. VoIP service through a major carrier often offers additional features that you not generally offered through a regular telephone service plan. With a VoIP plan from a telephone or cable company you can often get voicemail, call forwarding, caller ID, and 3-way conference calling at no extra cost. Some VoIP providers also offer online account management, online voice mail, detailed call logging, and call-forwarding.

You can also use VoIP with any "telephone-type" company involved. You simply use your computer to

Save Money on Telephone Calls, continued

make calls. Skype is one of the most popular services of this type. And the price is right. Making Skype calls from computer to computer is totally free. If you hook up two computers that have webcams, you can make video calls where you can see and talk with someone at the same time. You can also call from your computer to landlines and mobile numbers in the US and Canada for \$2.99 a month. If you don't want to be tied to the computer, you can purchase a Skype telephone that uses your computer to call, while you talk on a traditional-type telephone handset. You can also access Skype from many mobile phones. This lets you to place calls without adding to your minutes. There are many Skype competitors like GoogleTalk, Yahoo Messenger, and iCall.

There are also other unique VoIP solutions. You may have seen magicJack advertised on late night TV. It is a small device that plugs into the USB port on your computer. With magicJack you get your own telephone number. You can make calls right from the computer screen or you can attach a regular

telephone to the device and use it to make free phone calls in the US and Canada. I have a set of wireless phones attached to the magicJack that allows me to make and receive calls anywhere in the house. If a friend or relative also has a magicJack, you can make free calls to them even if they are one the other side of the world. magicJack costs about \$40 for the device and first year of service and \$20 a year for service after that. It's pretty useful and inexpensive.

By the way, if you have a land-line telephone number that you want to keep, you can move it (port it) over to a mobile phone. magicJack says that starting this August you will also be able to use your old telephone number with the magicJack, as well. So you don't even have to give up your old number to use the new technologies.

Whether you use a cell phone or a VoIP solution, you should realize that VoIP call may not be perfect. Cell phones sometimes drop calls and have areas where you can get service. Services like magicJack and Skype are dependent on your broadband Internet connection. So if you connection speed is good, the

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call will be excellent, but if your Internet slows down, you may get a poorer call quality. Yet, both of these solutions will save you money and you may find, like me that occasional slight inconvenience is worth the cost savings. I gave up both my business and personal land line almost two years ago. I now

rely on my cell phones, Skype, and magicJack. I am saving a bundle and enjoying every minute.

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What You Can Do If Your Mobile Phone Gets Wet

Tom Allen, bunkerhilltom (at) yahoo.com
Publisher / Editor, Mountain Bits & Bites
Mountain Computer User Group, Georgia (www.mcug.org)

Many of you get your mobile phone wet by one way or another. You worry as you mistakenly drop your mobile phone in water. It can also get wet if you are out in a heavy rain. However, there is no need to panic. It is possible to save your wet mobile phone by quickly repairing it. In order to save your mobile phone from water damage, you can consider doing this:

The most important thing you have to do is to act rapidly. Quickly remove all the detachable parts as well as covers possible such as the back cover,

battery, the SIM card, memory card etc.

Next, take a piece of cloth or a tissue paper to wipe the excess water you are able to notice within the mobile phone. Make sure that you dry it completely. If you don't do this, the water inside the mobile phone will begin to evaporate and gather in places which will be difficult to reach.

Take a hairdryer and begin drying the mobile phone while giving more consideration to the place where the battery is located. The battery housing usually consists of tiny holes to let in air (so giving more

What You Can Do If Your Mobile Phone Gets Wet, continued

space for water) inside the mobile phone. It will take several minutes. You may also set your oven to 180 degrees and let it preheat (if you are brave!). Turn it off, open the door and set the phone in it for about half an hour. I have done this but watched it very

carefully and the phone survived.

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Why Do I Care?

Wil Wakely, President, Seniors Computer Group, CA Newsletter: Bits and Bytes (www.scgsd.org) Wilw31 (at) gmail.com

This article might be a bit "techy" for some of us, but it is important to know a bit about what goes on inside of our computer so when something bad happens, we have a clue as to what might be wrong, and we can save time and money by not having to hire a high-priced technician to fix a simple problem.

First, let's review the hardware. The **power supply** converts the house electricity, 110 Volts AC (alternating current), to the appropriate lower DC (direct current) voltages that the rest of the computer requires. It contains a fan to keep it cool, which is about the only noise you should hear. There is one large printed circuit board inside called the

"motherboard", because it contains connections, or "slots", where other smaller "daughter boards" can be installed that do specialized functions. The motherboard is essentially the "head" of the computer and contains the major memory and connections for all of the other components. It has connectors for the keyboard, mouse, hard drives, modem, video, sound, fan and USB devices. It also contains the CPU, Central Processing Unit, a large computer chip which is the genius that runs everything. The latest versions of the CPU can do over three billion calculations per second, so it is really loafing most of the time. It is truly multi-

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tasking which means that it can do a variety of things at the same time.

So here's what happens when you first turn on your computer and it "boots". Booting comes from "bootstrapping", or lifting oneself by his bootstraps. The computer needs to know some rudimentary facts about itself before it can come fully alive. This information is retained in a computer chip on the motherboard called a ROM (Read-only Memory), which permanently retains certain information without requiring any power. There is a small disk-type battery on the motherboard which allows this ROM to be read.

This battery also keeps the clock running while the computer is off, so if the clock time begins acting strangely, the battery may need to be replaced; however, it is usually good for years. This ROM contains the **BIOS** (bye-ose) which stands for Basic Input Output System, and instructs the computer where to find more information in order to fully start up. A process called **POST** (Power On Self Test) runs to test the memory and make sure the rest of the

computer is healthy. It gives a series of Beep Codes to indicate the state of health. One beep means everything is okay. A Google search of Beep Codes will tell you what's wrong if you get weird beeps while Booting. If you press the Del(ete) key *immediately* after pressing the start switch, a screen will show the BIOS settings, which can be modified if necessary. Be careful!

Hard drives are so important to the computer that it helps to understand how they work: Think of them like the old Juke-boxes – lots of LP records that each can be played with a movable tone arm. The hard drive has hard metal platters, unlike old floppy disks which were flexible. They contain tiny magnetic spots which, depending upon how they are magnetized, indicate a one or a zero, which is the binary language the computer understands. A movable "head", like the tone arm, "reads" the magnetic state of the spots, called magnetic domains, and "writes" to change the magnetic polarity. Rather than a spiral track like an LP, the hard drive has ever larger concentric circles called

Why Do I Care? continued

cylinder tracks. The platter is also divided up into sectors like pieces of a pie. So to find a file, the head moves to a specific cylinder track and sector and reads the data that is there. A large table of contents called a Partition Table contains the track/sector location of all the files. Obviously, if this table becomes corrupted, the files cannot be located. Fortunately, a backup copy is automatically retained. However, if the hard drive dies, this backup copy is useless. (Backup! Backup elsewhere!)

While booting, the hard drive is recognized and a small area at the front of it is defined as the **MBR**, Master Boot Record. This contains enough information about the hard drive to locate the **OS** (Operating System) like Windows and load it.

The OS has its own sub-conscious memory called the **Registry** which contains a wealth of information about the computer and files. This now loads and can take quite a while if it is large. If this Registry file or the MBR gets corrupted, it is a major problem.

Fortunately, backup copies are automatically maintained. (Backup! Backup!)

Now we are almost home free. The next thing that happens is to load the **StartUp** files. These are programs that start automatically when you turn on your computer. If there are a lot of these it can drastically slow down the boot time. You can see and change these Startups by typing "run msconfig" and clicking on the StartUp tab. Check or uncheck the programs you desire. Keep these to a minimum for faster booting.

At this point Windows should be running and you are a happy camper to have full control. As you can see, lots of things happen before you are allowed at the controls, and all it takes is a minor glitch in any of these booting processes for your computer to fail to boot. It's amazing that it works at all!

Frequent **backups** of your hard drives are the solution to major computer headaches. It is not a case of 'if' your computer crashes, it is 'when'.

Happy computing!

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Inserting International Letters into Word Documents

Nancy DeMarte, Columnist, Office Talk, Sarasota PCUG, Inc., Florida Newsletter: Sarasota PC Monitor (www.spcug.org) ndemarte (at) Verizon.net

In our global society, languages have become more blended. English, for example, has adopted many words of different origins, some of which include special diacritical marks over the letters, as in the French word passé. Occasionally words can actually be misunderstood without a special mark over a letter, such as the difference between the "résumé" we provide when looking for a job, and "resume", meaning to begin again. It helps to know how to insert these diacritical marks when using Microsoft Office. Word provides two fairly easy methods to add these marks: the Symbol dialog box and keystroke combinations.

The **Symbol dialog box** (formerly called the Character Map) is easy to find in Word. It can be useful but also a bit tedious when you're in the middle of composing a document. It provides both international characters and other symbols, such as

the Euro symbol (\mathcal{E}) or Pi (π) . To use this dialog box in Word 2007, click the Insert tab, then Symbol to view a few common symbols. Click the one you want to make it appear where your cursor was flashing. Click Symbol, then More Symbols, to open the full dialog box. Click a letter or symbol, then Insert, and it's done. This dialog box contains every symbol and international letter that Office has to offer, but inserting one may involve moving between different tables of fonts and symbol types before you locate the one you need. It is worth spending a few minutes exploring this box, though, if only to see what's available. Once you insert a symbol using the dialog box, it will appear with recently used characters and symbols in a row near the bottom of the box for easy access in the future.

Although the Symbol dialog box method is the best way to insert a symbol, there's an easier method of

Inserting International Letters into Word Documents, continued

inserting international letters using a combination of keyboard strokes. This method involves pressing the Control key (Ctrl) on the keyboard at the same time as a punctuation or symbol key, then releasing these keys and pressing the key of the letter that needs the diacritical mark. Let's use the example of the acute é. First be sure your cursor is flashing in the spot where you want the character to appear. Press the Ctrl key and the apostrophe key at the same time. Release them and type the letter "e", which will appear with its acute mark in place, é.

When learning this method, it helps to have a chart of the appropriate keys and corresponding diacritical marks nearby. The system is so logical that before long you won't need to refer to the chart except for unusual marks. The chart on the right gives you many of the ones you might need.

A few tips about this chart: 1. Many of the diacritical marks resemble the keyboard symbols that are used to create them, which makes them easier to remember. 2. Occasionally the Shift key is included in the procedure. This is because the keyboard

International Character:	Chart Press these keys, then release and press the letter.
à, è, ì, ò, ù	Ctrl + ` (grave accent)
á, é, í, ó, ú, ý	Ctrl + ' (apostrophe)
â, ê, î, ô, û	$Ctrl + Shift + ^ (caret)$
ã, ñ, õ	$Ctrl + Shift + \sim (tilde)$
ä, ë, ï, ö, ü, ÿ	Ctrl + Shift + : (colon)
å	Crtl + Shift + @
æ or œ	Crtl + Shift + &
ç	Crtl +, (comma)
ð	Crtl + ' (apostrophe)
Ø	Ctrl + / (forward slash)
i	Alt + Ctrl + Shift +?
i	Alt + Ctrl + Shift +!
ß	Ctrl + Shift + &

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symbol is the top one on the key and needs the Shift key to select it, as it would if it were a capital letter. 3. To get the upper case version of these letters with their marks, such as \acute{E} , merely press the Shift key while pressing the letter.

If you find that you type in languages other than English on a regular basis, Word 2007 and 2010 offer quite a bit of help. You can see the list of the languages which have editing tools installed in Word by clicking the Office button (File in 2010) and selecting Word Options. Click Popular in the left pane and select the Language Settings button. I found, for example, that limited editing support is provided for more than 200 languages on my computer, including six dialects of French, five of Chinese, and twenty-one of Spanish.

If you need more tools in another language, you can download free Language Interface Packs or purchase Language Packs for about \$25, both of which provide extra editing tools for the language of your choice. Other options allow you to change the keyboard to a different language layout. To do this,

open the Control Panel and put it in Classic view so all the icons are visible. Click the Region and Language icon, and then the Keyboards and Languages tab. English is the default, but you can add other languages from this dialog box. You can also customize formats for specific systems which differ among countries, such as currency and measurement, using the Format tab in that same dialog box.

If you are interested in exploring more about using Word in a language other than English, here is a link to get you started:

http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/support/change-the-default-language-for-office-programs-HA010356057.aspx

Meantime, clip the chart included in this article to use the next time you need to type an "international" word.

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SIG News

LUNICS (Linux/Unix)

Andreas Meyer (lunics@acgnj.org)

http://www.acgnj.org/groups/lunics.html

LUNICS is a group for those who share an interest in Unix and similar operating systems. While we do quite a bit with Linux, we've also been known to discuss Solaris and BSD as well. Recent meetings have followed a Random Access format. See our web page for further information. (We meet on the first Monday of each month, at 8:00 PM).

Main Meeting

Evan Williams (president@acgnj.org) http://www.acgnj.org/groups/mainmeet.html

We meet on the first Friday of the month, at 8:00 PM. Each December, this meeting includes our Annual Business Meeting and Officer Elections. *No* meetings in July or August.

Layman's Forum

Matt Skoda (som359@gmail.com) http://www.acgnj.org/groups/laymans.html

This SIG discusses issues of interest to novice users or those planning to get started in computing. Watch our Web page for updates and announcements. We meet at the same time as the Hardware Workshop. (On the second Monday of the month, at 8:00 PM). *No* meetings in July and August.

Hardware Workshop

Mike Reagan (hardware@acgnj.org)

This group is dedicated to repairing, refurbishing and/or recycling older computers. Ten people attended the first meeting, so there is still a market for this type of event. Although we looked at some of the older equipment stored in he back room, most of our time was spent in talking about ast experiences and planning for the future. Hopefully, we can establish a viable long-term schedule of projects, and keep the interest of those who attended this inaugural meeting. If you have a hardware problem, bring it in and we can all help fix or demolish it. (No guarantees either way.) We meet at the same time as the Layman's Forum. (On the second Monday of each month, at 8:00 PM).

Java

Mike Redlich (mike@redlich.net)

http://www.redlich.net/javasig/javasig.html

This SIG covers beginner, intermediate, and advanced level Java programming. Primary focus is on developing useful/practical applets and applications. (We meet on the second Tuesday of each month, at 7:30 PM). ■

Mobile Devices

Brenda Bell (mobdevsig@acgnj.org)

The Mobile Devices SIG focuses largely on currentgeneration cellphones and smart phones (such as Blackberry, Android, iPhone) which bridge the gap between basic cell phones and traditional computers, and how they can help you manage and organize your life. Our membership ranges from those who have recently acquired their first, basic cellphone to those who develop applications for today's modern smart phones, iPods, and ultra-portable computers. While we expect to spend much of our time investigating the built-in features and specialized applications available to modern smart phones, if you bring your basic (or multimedia) cell phone, iPod, or other mobile device with questions on how to use it, where to find applications, or what features they have, we are always happy to help! Meet and greet and plan where this event goes. Bring all your ideas, PDAs, fancy phones, etc. (We meet on the second Wednesday of alternate months (we get the even ones), at 7:30PM).

WebDev

Evan Williams (webdev@acgnj.org)

This SIG is an open forum for all Website Development techniques and technologies, to encourage study and development of web sites of all kinds. All languages will be considered and examined. The current project is a CMS for the club. Anyone interested in starting a new project, come to the meeting and announce/explain. Provide as much detail as possible. WebDev should be an all-encompasing development and examination forum for all issues, applications, OS, languages and systems one can use to build Websites. We currently

have two web development language SIGs: .NET and Java; but other languages and OS need to be investigated, examined and tested; Windows, Linux, UNIX, DEC, Vax, HP etc. Intel-PC, Motorola - MAC etc. (We meet on the second Wednesday of alternate months (we get the odd ones), at 7:30 PM).

Investment Software

Jim Cooper (jim@thecoopers.org)

http://www.acgnj.org/groups/sig_investment.html

The Investment SIG continues with presentations on how to use analysis programs TC2000 and TCNet. Large charts are presented on our pull down screen and illustrate the application of computer scans and formulas to find stocks for profitable investments. Technical analysis determines buy points, sell points and projected moves. Technical analysis can also be used on fundamentals such as earnings, sales growth, etc. We're no longer focusing on just Telechart. If you are using (or interested in) Tradestation, eSignal, VectorVest, or just in learning how to select and use charting and technical analysis, come join us!! (We meet on the second Thursday of the month, at 8 PM).

NJ Gamers

Gregg McCarthy (greggmajestic@gmail.com)

http://www.NJGamers.com

www.lanparty.com

The Friday Night Frag starts at 6:00 PM on the second Friday of each month, and keeps going until 12 Noon on Saturday - 18 hours for 5 bucks!

BYOC - Bring your own computer.

BYOF - Bring your own food.

And if you don't like sitting on metal folding chairs...

BYO chair!

Web Browser (Formerly Firefox)

David McRitchie (firefox@acgnj.org).

This SIG is an open forum for all Firefox and Mozilla techniques and technologies, to encourage study and development of web sites of all kinds. All browsers will be considered and examined. All members and guests are invited to check out the design concepts and voice their opinion. (We meet on the third Monday of each month, at 7:30 PM).

C/C++ Programming

Bruce Arnold (barnold@ieee.org) http://acgnj.barnold.us/index.html

This is a forum for discussion of programming in general, beginning and intermediate level C, C++, C-Win programming, hardware, algorithms, and operating systems. We demonstrate real programming in a non-intimidating way, presenting complete code for working programs in 3-5 sheets of paper. (We meet on the third Tuesday of each month, at 7:30 PM). *No* meetings in July or August. ■

Window Pains

John Raff (jraff@comcast.net)
http://www.acgnj.org/groups/winpains.html

Intended to provide members with Windows oriented discussions, Microsoft and Linux style. Directed to more technological level of attendee, but newbies are welcomed. (We meet on the third Friday of the month at 8:00 PM). *No* meetings in July or August.

37th Anniversary Newsletter CD Now On Sale



Beta .12 Release.

\$8.00, including postage.

(\$7.00 if you pick up a copy at a meeting).

Get yours today!

Back Issues Still Needed

Our collection remains incomplete. Below is a list of missing newsletters. Anyone who lends us one of these (or supplies a good clear copy) will receive the next CD as our thanks.

1975: #2 and #3 (dates uncertain).

1976: January.

1984: August.

1985: June, July, August, September.

Page 14 ACGNJ August 2013

Guru Corner

If you need help with any of the technologies listed below, you can call on the person listed. Please be considerate and call before 10 PM.

Software				
HTML	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410		
	Jo-Anne Head	908-769-7385		
ColdFusion	Jo-Anne Head	908-769-7385		
CSS	Frank Warren	908-756-1681		
	Jo-Anne Head	908-769-7385		
Java	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410		
C++	Bruce Arnold	908-735-7898		
	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410		
ASP	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410		
Perl	John Raff	973-560-9070		
	Frank Warren	908-756-1681		
XML	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410		
Genealogy	Frank Warren	908-756-1681		
Home Automation	Frank Warren	908-756-1681		
	Operating Systems			
Windows 3.1	Ted Martin	732-636-1942		

Letter To The Editor

Bob,

I called Herb Goodman, who supposedly handles the discounted subscriptions. He said he has not been doing this for many years! Also, his email address is invalid.

Please correct future issues of the newsletter by removing this section.

Regards,

Dr. Steve Palaszewski

President

New Outlook Pioneers Morris Club

Editor's Reply

Dear Dr. Palaszewski,

Thank you very much for this information.

I couldn't change the July issue, but I'll get it out by August.

Thanks again,

Bob

ACGNJ MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Sign up online at www.acgnj.org/membershipApplication.html and pay dues with PayPal.

4		Dues			
7	US/CANADA			STUDENT	SENIOR CITIZEN (Over 65)
1 Year	\$25			\$20	\$20
2 Years	\$40				
3 Years	\$ 55				\$45
Mail this ann	lication and your che	eck to:			
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	경기 [10] 10 전 기계 시간 경기 (10) 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	JP OF NEW JERSEY, INC	C., P.0. BOX 13	5, SCOTCH P	LAINS, NJ 07070
	COMPUTER GROU	JP OF NEW JERSEY, INC	C., P.0. BOX 13		LAINS, NJ 07070
	COMPUTER GROU	JP OF NEW JERSEY, INC		nge	LAINS, NJ 07070
AMATEUR	COMPUTER GROU	JP OF NEW JERSEY, INC New Member Renewal		ngeF	25.00

Other Local Computer Groups				
Princeton Macintosh User Group: 7:15 pm 2nd Tuesday, Jadwin Hall, A-10, Washington Rd, Princeton, (609) 252-1163, www.pmug-nj.org	Linux Users Group in Princeton: 7 pm, 2nd Wednesday, Lawrence Branch Mercer Library, Rt#1 & Darrah Lane, Lawrence NJ http://www.lugip.org	New York PC: 3rd Thurs, 7 pm, PS 41, 116 W 11th St. For info call hotline, (212) 533-NYPC, http://www.nypc.org		
Computer Education Society of Philadelphia: Meetings & Workshops at Jem Electronics, 6622 Castor Ave, Philadelphia PA. www.cesop.org/	Brookdale Computer Users Group: 7 pm, 3rd Friday, Brookdale Community College, Bldg MAS Rm 100, Lincroft NJ. (732)-739-9633. www.bcug.com	NJ Macintosh User Group: 8 pm, 3rd Tuesday, Allwood Branch Library, Lyall Rd, Clifton NJ. (201) 893-5274 http://www.njmug.org.		
PC User Group of So. Jersey: 2nd Mon., 7 pm, Trinity Presb. Church, 499 Rt 70 E, Cherry Hill, NJ. L. Horn, (856) 983-5360	Hunterdon Computer Club: 8:30 am, 3rd Sat, Hunterdon Medical Center, Rt 31, Flemington NJ. www.hunterdoncomputerclub.org, (908) 995-4042.	NY Amateur Computer Group: 2nd Thurs, 7 pm, Rm 806 Silver Bldg, NYU, 32 Waverly Pl, NYC. http://www.nyacc.org		
Morris Micro Computer Club: 7 pm 2nd Thurs., Morris County Library, Hanover Ave, Morristown NJ, (973) 267-0871. http://www.morrismicro.com	Central Jersey Computer Club: 8 pm, 4th Friday, Rm 74, Armstrong Hall, College of NJ. Rich Williams, (609) 466-0909.	NJ PC User Group: 2nd Thurs, Monroe Rm at Wyckoff Public Library, 7 pm. Maureen Shannon, (201) 853-7432, www.njpcug.org		
Philadelphia Area Computer Society: 3rd Sat, 12 noon Main Meeting, groups 8 am-3 pm. Upper Moreland Middle School, Hatboro PA. (215) 764-6338. www.pacsnet.org	NJ Computer Club: 6:15 pm, 2nd Wednesday except Jul & Aug, North Branch Reformed Church, 203 Rt 28, Bridgewater NJ. http://www.njcc.org	Princeton PC Users Group: 2nd Monday, Lawrenceville Library, Alt Rt 1 & Darrah Lane, Lawrenceville, Paul Kurivchack (908) 218-0778, http://www.ppcug-nj.org		

Classified

FREE TO MEMBERS. Use our classified ads to sell off your surplus computer stuff. Send copy to Classified, ACGNJ NEWS, P.O. Box 135, Scotch Plains NJ 07076 or e-mail to the editor, bdegroot@ptd.net. Classified ads are free to members, one per issue. Non-members pay \$10. Send check payable to ACGNJ Inc. with copy. Reasonable length, please.

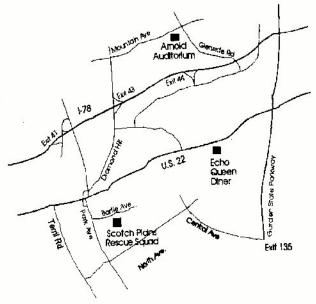
Radio and TV Programs

Computer Radio Show, WBAI 99.5 FM, NY, Wed. 8-9 p.m.

Review, Software Learning Channel, Saturday 10-10:30 p.m.

On Computers, WCTC 1450 AM, New Brunswick, Sunday 1-4 p.m. To ask questions call (800) 677-0874.

PC Talk, Sunday from 8 p.m. to The Association of 10 p.m., 1210 AM Philadelphia.



Member of Personal Computer User Groups 1-800-876-WPEN http://www.apcug.net

Directions to Meetings at Scotch Plains Rescue Squad, 1916 Bartle Ave., Scotch Plains NJ

From New York City or Northern New Jersey

Take Route 1&9 or the Garden State Parkway to US 22 Westbound.

From Southern New Jersey

Take Parkway north to Exit 135 (Clark). Stay on left of ramp, follow circle under Parkway. Bear right to Central Avenue; follow to Westfield and under RR overpass. Left at light to North Avenue; follow to light in Fanwood. Right on Martine (which becomes Park Ave). Right on Bartle Ave in middle of shopping district.Scotch Plains Rescue Squad (2-story brick) is located on the right. Do not park in the row next to the building - you'll be towed.

From I-78 (either direction)

Take exit 41 (Scotch Plains); follow signs to US 22. Turn right at light at bottom of hill and use overpass to cross Rt. 22. Follow US 22 Westbound directions.

From US 22 Westbound

Exit at Park Avenue, Scotch Plains after McDonalds on the right, diagonally opposite Scotchwood Diner on the left, immediately before the overpass. After exiting, turn left at the light and use overpass to cross US 22. Bear right at bottom of ramp to continue south on Park Avenue. Turn left at the second light (a staggered intersection). Scotch Plains Rescue Squad (2-story brick) is on the right. Do not park in the row next to the building — you'll be towed. We meet on the second floor, entering by the door at the right front of the building.

From Western New Jersey

Take US 22 Eastbound to the Park Avenue exit. The exit is about a mile past Terrill Road and immediately past the overpass. Exit onto Park Avenue South and follow the directions above to the Rescue Squad building.